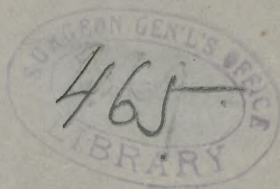


*American Anti-Vivisection  
soc. (2d an. rept<sup>t</sup>)*

**The American Society**  
FOR THE  
**Restriction of Vivisection.**

FORMERLY THE AMERICAN ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY.



OFFICE, No. 1002 WALNUT STREET,  
PHILADELPHIA.

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THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
American Anti-Vivisection Society,

FORMED FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTRICTING THE  
PRACTICE OF VIVISECTION WITHIN  
PROPER LIMITS.

FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING JANUARY 27th, 1885.

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Organized February 23d, 1883.

Incorporated May, 1883.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
OFFICE, No. 1002 WALNUT STREET.  
1885.





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OF THE  
AMERICAN ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY.

*Formed for the purpose of restricting the practice of vivisection  
within proper limits.*

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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
AMERICAN ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY,  
FOR THE RESTRICTION OF EXPERIMENTS ON  
LIVING ANIMALS.

MADE ON JANUARY 27th, 1885.

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During the twelve months which have elapsed since the Annual Meeting of 1883, of this Association for the restriction of vivisection within proper limits, its efforts have been directed almost exclusively to two things.

First, the spreading a knowledge of what vivisection is, for there are many intelligent persons among us who have no idea of the meaning of the word, and some who have never even heard it.

Secondly, it has aimed at gaining the attention of those two influential bodies of men, namely, the Physicians, and Ministers of Religion all through the State of Pennsylvania, hoping for their support when this cause should come up for trial, as it were, before the State Legislature. In furtherance of this last named object, the Association, in the month of March last, sent a circular to the Physicians of this State, setting forth the reasons for which the Society was organized, and asking for their approval of a restrictive law which should regulate the practice of vivisection. With the circular a postal card was enclosed, to be signed and returned by all those who favored the plan of the Society. This card contained five clauses, giving a general idea of the proposed law; this being all that was possible in the small space of a postal card. The cards came back first from the physicians, with many shades of opinion and feeling expressed on them. Some most friendly, as, "I approve cordially and emphatically," or "I con-



cur in every word ;" some adverse, as, " I will do all in my power to prevent the success of the Association ;" but the phrase which gave most encouragement, I think, to a hope in the humanity of medical men, and to its being fearlessly expressed, was this : " Unrestricted Vivisection should only be tolerated in a community of devils." It is short and easily remembered, and should be remembered by all the members of our Association, as coming from a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, of mature judgment and experience. It is well, also, that you should know and remember an opposite sentiment sent to us. It seems to present to us a picture of human selfishness at its height, and to show to what indifference to animal suffering men may attain, in the school which protests against any protection for the lower creatures, when medical knowledge is in question. The phrase is this : " Better to torture *all* animals *henceforward*, than cause *one* *moment's* physical or mental pain to a *human being*." The sentiment belongs to heathen times rather than to the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, after eighteen centuries of Christian nurture. Can it be that science, meant to be man's great and legitimate helper, is becoming his God ? the object of his worship as his supreme good.

In contrast to this pitilessness of man to the lower creatures, we give an instance of how, in a moment of extreme need, when no help can be looked for from man, the pity of one brute for another arouses in him a strange intelligence. The story appeared in the *London Lancet*, of last November, and was sent to the *London Spectator* by an English physician, Dr. John H. Clark. He says : " The scene is a Physiological Laboratory ; a dog undergoes a terrible experimental operation, removal of part of the bowels. The operation, though performed under anaesthetics, is one which necessarily entails very acute after sufferings ; " it is the second night after this operation, and the dog is left in " its pain, tied so that it cannot move, but it is not left altogether " without a sympathizer. During the night another dog tied up " in the same room slipped its collar and bit through the cord " which secured the subject of the experiment. At ten o'clock " the next A. M., it was found that the dressings were removed, and " both dogs had been running about the room. Let your readers

“picture to themselves what happened in the darkness of that awful  
 “night. One dog, tied down and unable to stir, is crying in pain;  
 “another awaiting the same fate, hearing the cries, struggles till  
 “it frees itself to go to the sufferer’s help; thinking the cords that  
 “bind it may be the cause of its pain, it gnaws them through;  
 “next the dressings are torn off, and as this brings no relief, the  
 “victim rushes around the room in its agony, with its sympathiz-  
 “ing friend at its side. At last it can run no longer, and the  
 “experimenter, on his arrival, finds it lying on its side. The  
 “abdomen was tympanitic and very painful to the touch. It  
 “is a comfort to learn that the dog died at 11.45 A. M., after a  
 “dose of atropia given with that object. Thus ended the tragedy.  
 “The subject of the experiment, we are told, weighed 16.3  
 “pounds.” \*\* The powers of love and sympathy in the hearts  
 “of these creatures, and their sensitiveness to pain, cannot be  
 “weighed, and so do not enter into the calculations of the ex-  
 “perimenters.”

The answers which were returned from medical men approving of a restrictive law of some kind, although all did not approve of the five clauses, were between seven and eight hundred.

Of the cards sent to the ministers, all through the State, eight hundred and twenty-one answers of approval were returned, some very warmly commending the object.

The next step taken was the preparation of a bill for the restriction of Vivisection, for which we are indebted to Mr. Richard P. White. A copy of the bill has been sent to each physician who signed the cards, with a notice that should he not withdraw his assent, he will be considered as favoring its passage. It has already been introduced into the House of Representatives by Mr. Deardon, of Philadelphia.

In the beginning of 1883, this Society sent to the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania, at its meeting at Norristown, an appeal for its co-operation in the work of obtaining a restrictive law. It is to be found printed in our last year’s Annual Report. It was, after being presented by Dr. Hiram Corson, a former President of the State Medical Society, referred to a committee; contrary to what was naturally to be expected, in forming a





committee of five, no place in it was given to Dr. Corson;\* but the first three names chosen (one of which, of course, was that of the Chairman of the Committee) were the names of those members of the profession who have stood forward for years in opposition to any such project as the appeal proposed. One had given efficient aid, when a member of the State Legislature, to defeat one of the mildest restrictive bills that could be projected. The two last named members of the committee were probably known to hold the same views as their colleagues, for the answer returned by the committee was unanimous. This injustice to the appeal from the start made it obvious what reply was to be expected. The committee not only denied the need or advisability of any restriction but it urged the Profession not to submit to any restrictive law whatever, and pointed out to all the members of the Association the way to make sure that no such bill from this Society should be passed by the Legislature.

At the meeting of the State Medical Society, in the month of April last, in this city, the Report of this Committee was presented and accepted, and during the summer was sent to the Anti-Vivisection Society as having passed unanimously. This Society has, however, in its possession over one hundred and seventy names, of the permanent members of the State Medical Society, given as approving of a law of some kind being enacted which should govern experiments on living animals. It cannot, therefore, be considered that the State Medical Society is a unit in declaring, in the words of the Committee, "That the measures proposed were in no wise desirable or needed."

The following fact was brought to the notice of the Society in the month of April:—

A gentleman called at the Society's room to say that in walking round a stable, in the rear of his house, he observed in the place into which the manure was thrown a bag, tied up, within which something was moving; he drew it out, and it was so securely tied he was obliged to rip it open, when out of it crawled a dog in a most pitiable condition, whose flesh had been cut all over its body; there seemed scarcely a place where an incision had not been made. It staggered feebly around; some food was put

\* This statement has been contradicted as a mistake, but it is correct.



before it which it smelt but could not eat. Thinking the most merciful thing to do was to end its life, he went for a policeman and induced him to come and shoot it. He believed it to be an instance of vivisection, and a physician, to whom he mentioned it, agreed with him in this opinion.

The most important publications issued within the year, were, first, an Essay by James Macaulay, M. D., of Edinburgh, and secondly, an Essay by Albert Leffingwell, M. D., of New York. It has been desired by the Board of Managers to offer a prize of \$500 for an Essay on Vivisection, to be competed for in the United States, but as yet the funds at our disposal have not authorized it; indeed, at this moment our treasury is greatly in need of being replenished, for ordinary and necessary expenses, as the Treasurer's account will show.

We must, in conclusion, remind all the members of our Association and all the well wishers to our cause, that a crisis to this cause has come, in the effort we are making to win a victory in the Legislature of Pennsylvania that shall bring at once some good to the helpless lower animals; helpless before man's superior reason and ingenuity, and powers of invention, by which those creatures can be not only used lawfully by him, but used wantonly and cruelly, with no chance left them for defence or escape. Should this effort fail, two more years will elapse before a meeting of the Legislature at which another effort can be made. Let every one who can bring any influence to bear, help us now, and let those who are going to make an uncompromising battle against our efforts, heed the warning of one of their own profession, namely, Dr. Leffingwell, who wrote as follows, a few years since: "For if" "all compromise be persistently rejected by Physiologists, there" "is danger that some day, impelled by the advancing growth of" "humane sentiment, Society may confound in one common" "condemnation all experiments of this nature, and make the" "whole practice impossible, except in secret and as a crime."

This is true. We also know that after long tolerated evil, such as unrestricted vivisection, there is apt to come the slow but sure rising of the storm of Divine retribution, which at last, in some form or other, sweeps the evil away.

ADELE BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

*(Copy of the Postal Card alluded to in the above Report, which was sent to the Medical Profession.)*

### AMERICAN ANTI-VIVISECTION ASSOCIATION.

*"Formed for the purpose of restricting the practice of Vivisection within proper limits."*

DEAR SIR:—

Are you in favor of such legislation upon the subject of Vivisection as will embody one or all of the following general provisions?—

1. "To forbid the practice to any persons who are not licensed by authority of law.
2. "To require anæsthetics to be given to the animal under experiment whenever the nature of the experiment will admit of it.
3. "To prevent useless suffering by requiring any seriously injured animal to be killed immediately after the conclusion of the experiment.
4. "To prohibit Vivisection for class demonstrations in medical schools, colleges, etc.
5. "To forbid the performance of Vivisection merely for the purpose of acquiring manual dexterity."

If you do not desire to have your name mentioned in our publications among those who have approved, your wishes shall be respected.

I approve of the objects of the proposed legislation as stated above.

(Signature) .....



# ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

## AMERICAN ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY

FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTRICTING THE PRACTICE OF VIVISECTION WITHIN PROPER LIMITS.

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The Second Annual Meeting of the American Anti-Vivisection Society took place on Tuesday, January 27th, 1885, at 8 o'clock P. M. Previous to the evening meeting, an election of officers for the ensuing year was held at the Society's Room, at 1002 Walnut Street.

The evening meeting took place at Association Hall, and was open to the public as well as to the members of the Society.

The President, Dr. Thomas G. Morton, presided. After the reading of the Secretary's Report for the year 1884, by Mr. Henry Flanders, addresses were made by Dr. T. G. Morton, Dr. James E. Garretson, by Dr. Owen J. Wister, and Dr. W. R. D. Blackwood, which were listened to with great interest by a large and appreciative audience.

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### ADDRESS OF DR. MORTON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—To the Second Annual Meeting of this Society, formed for the purpose of restricting vivisection within proper limits, I bid you welcome. The presence of such a large and highly intelligent audience upon this occasion, showing interest in our work and sympathy with our aims, is very gratifying as well as encouraging.

Among the manifold charities of this great city and noble Commonwealth, it would seem that everything had long since been provided for, but from time to time new opportunities for usefulness, new avenues for the exercise of benevolence open before us, attracting the attention and claiming the active support of the

humane, the generous and the charitable. But a few years ago and the necessity of a society for the Protection of Children from Cruelty was doubted, even by some who are well known as friends of the oppressed. It was only the other day, at the annual meeting of that society, it was shown that upwards of thirteen thousand children had already been rescued from cruelty and neglect through its instrumentality, since its organization, only a few years ago. Similar doubts have been expressed with regard to this society, but as its beneficent and humane objects become better understood and appreciated, it has been seen that its organization was neither ill-advised nor premature. It owed its origin, two years ago, to solemn convictions of duty and a sincere desire to prevent useless suffering; and was based upon an appreciation of the dangers to society growing out of the unrestricted practice of vivisection.

Within a very few years, a change has been made in the teaching of physiology, and in connection with various medical schools, in this country as well as in Europe, laboratories have been introduced where experiments are made upon living animals, in order to illustrate lectures before students. Thousands of animals are yearly sacrificed in order to show to students what is stated in their text-books is true. Let me say, in passing, that, instead of increasing confidence in the standard works, it has the contrary and unfortunate effect of making the student skeptical, unless he can get the identical results from his own unskillful investigations. The result is, however, that animals are tortured and sacrificed without any advantage whatever. Indeed, it has come to the knowledge of this society that lecturers on physiology in seminaries and schools which are not medical have introduced dissection of living animals to illustrate their teaching.

I need not stop to point out the obvious fact that this *furor* about vivisection represents only a transitory and not very creditable phase in the history of medicine, doomed; it is probable, to a very short career, because it is opposed to the humanitarian spirit of the age. Need I remind you that in all parts of the civilized world animals are now regarded as something more than mere property; they have the right to considerate and humane treatment.



Let me also state that there are societies for the restriction of vivisection doing noble work in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Italy, Germany and Switzerland, while in the far north the "Scandinavian League," holding its own against scientific cruelty, embraces Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and even remote Finland. After such a recital, does it not seem that there is some ground for believing in the possible cruelties of vivisectionists.

Vivisection has always been defended on the ground of its utility to the human race; no one denies that vivisection causes suffering to animals; the question is, does humanity profit by this suffering?

Any one who has been at the trouble to look into the question at all, if honest and unbiased, must declare that most of the vivisection that is being practiced is useless for scientific purposes. It is estimated that in Germany eighty per cent. of the experiments are worthless.

Let me quote the statements of well known writers with regard to the abuses of vivisection, authorities which are generally quoted in support of the practice. Dalton declares that "it is perfectly true that vivisection may be and has been abused, in certain instances, by reckless, unfeeling, or unskillful persons." He further says, "I have myself witnessed this abuse. Nothing could be more shocking than the performance of these operations; many of them were evidently cruel and unnecessary, and excited the hearty condemnation of all who visited the place."

The highest authority in England, Professor Owen, is of the opinion that no teacher of physiology is justified in repeating any vivisectional experiments merely to show their known results to his class or to others; that it is against abuses of this nature that humanity, Christianity and civilization should alike protest.

Sir William Ferguson, Bart., F.R.S., Sergeant Surgeon to the Queen, declared that "these experiments are done very frequently in a most reckless manner" and "if the public knew all that is to be known on the subject, they would be likely to demand some remedy." \* \* \*

I will not multiply names; but there is a piece of history connected with this subject which deserves your attention. Public

opinion in England was so excited a few years ago by the rapid increase of vivisection and the organization of laboratories for physiological experimentation, that a royal commission was appointed to investigate the practice of vivisection in Great Britain. After a prolonged examination of a very large number of witnesses, it arrived at the deliberate conclusion that vivisection is liable to abuse, and recommended the passage of an act of Parliament requiring those who wish to practice vivisection to take out special licenses, to be granted by the government. This was the Act of 1876, which is still in force.

It is the object of this society to have a law, similar, in many respects, to the English act, passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania during its present session, and this, we are led to believe, is not without a fair chance of success. It is true, that the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania, in reply to a communication addressed to it by this society, in May, 1883 (which was referred to a committee strongly in favor of vivisection), adopted the sentiment of that committee, that the direction and supervision of vivisection "can be properly entrusted only to members of the medical profession, and that its restriction or prohibition by law would inevitably retard the acquisition of knowledge in respect to healthy and morbid actions, the causes and prevention of disease and the improvement of the medical art." At the session when this was adopted, there was only a small portion of the society present, there was no discussion, and the resolution prevailed without opposition. As a commentary upon this, I will state, and with feelings of just pride, that we have received, during the past few months, communications from physicians all over the State, in number amounting to between seven and eight hundred names, and from at least fifty-five counties, voluntarily given, approving of our effort to obtain the passage of a law to restrict vivisection within proper limits.

This movement is supported so largely by the profession, because its members wish to resist the imputation that medicine is a study which requires the practice of such cruelty upon animals that it is difficult to see how any one with truly refined feelings can pursue it. We consider that vivisectors have done injury to a noble profession by allowing the impression to gain



ground in the community that physicians are callous and indifferent to suffering. I could narrate cases in which not animals but human beings have been used for experimentation, and not by the anatomists of Padua three hundred years ago, but in our own country and in this, our own age; but I will spare you the details of such inhumanity. Such instances of depravity are a disgrace to our civilization, and totally unworthy of the noble profession of medicine. We are told by those engaged in physiological experiment, "that vivisection must not be interfered with;" that, in fact, it is such a good thing that it cannot possibly be abused. This we deny, and have already given authorities for the denial. Let me briefly call your attention to some of the reputed achievements of vivisection.

Harvey, who completed the discovery of the circulation of the blood, was an anatomist as well as a vivisector, and his own writings show that his great discovery was due to his observations upon the valves in the veins, and his reflections upon his anatomical studies, and that he subsequently performed vivisections to demonstrate this to others.

The discovery of the circulation of the blood was not due to vivisection, and it could not have escaped the anatomists of the seventeenth century if Harvey had never been born and vivisection had never been thought of. John Hunter was not indebted to vivisection for his treatment of aneurism by distal ligation of the artery involved, as is frequently asserted, because he performed the operation successfully upon man before he studied its results upon animals. The lacteals, or lymphatics, of the small intestine, which absorb the digested materials (so-called from the milk-white fluid they usually contain), were not discovered by Aselli by vivisection, but by the dissection of a dog after death. Aselli's subsequent investigations only led him into error, as he believed that they discharged into the liver. It was reserved for Pecquet, twenty years later, to point out by dissection the thoracic duct and its true relation to the lymphatics.

Spencer Wells, who was knighted for his services to humanity in connection with the operation of ovariectomy, did not perform his celebrated experiments upon rabbits until he had operated four times upon human beings. He has confessed that the vivi-

sections taught him *nothing* that he had not previously learned from an examination of the body of one of his patients who had died.

Dr. Chas. Clay, who preceded Simpson in this operation, says "That he never heard of vivisection in connection with ovariectomy, nor can I perceive any advantage that ovariectomy has received from such experiments." In fact, we know that the father of ovariectomy, Ephraim McDowell, of Kentucky, to whom the world is indebted for this operation, did not owe his suggestion or inspiration to vivisection. Sir William Ferguson declared vivisection entirely useless in surgery. Nélaton, the distinguished French surgeon, made the criticism, that "all systems based on vivisection are false and illusory." Sir Charles Bell said that the dissection of living animals has done more "to perpetuate error than to enforce the just views taken from anatomy and the natural motions."

I repeat an incident which occurred in this city more than half a century ago, which will interest you, and which I found in the diary of my father, the late Samuel G. Morton, M.D. In 1822, or thereabouts, the Philadelphia Medical Society, long since gone out of existence, appointed a committee, consisting of Drs. Chapman, Harlan, Coates and Laurence, to attempt to decide some physiological question by experiments upon animals. It is needless to say that there were no anæsthetics then, and these experiments were extremely cruel. Prof. Chapman attended but one meeting; on this occasion several animals were undergoing the process of living dissection, and among them an unfortunate sheep was a conspicuous sufferer. When the distinguished professor entered the room, his eyes fell upon the sheep, then taking a rapid survey of the room, he impulsively said, "Gentlemen, may the Lord have mercy upon you; you'll all go to hell." Then turning upon his heel he left the place, nor could he be induced ever to return. Of the results to science of the labors of this committee, of which the kind-hearted Dr. Chapman was a member, nothing, so far as I can learn, has ever been made public. This, I am glad to say, is not an exceptional instance of opposition to vivisection by medical men in this city; in fact, there has always been a large proportion of



the profession that, both on principle and on scientific grounds, have been opposed to the practice.

It is a matter of very great satisfaction to me to state that in an introductory lecture on anatomy delivered by my father, before his class of medical students in this city, on December 11th, 1830, I find the following words: "The practice, however, which once obtained so generally, of committing living animals to the minute processes of dissection, cannot be too severely reprobated. Notwithstanding the solemn sanction of Vesalius and of many eminent anatomists of more recent times, it cannot be denied that living dissection is useless barbarity. Can we decide, respecting the natural and healthy action of organs, when an animal is excited to the utmost degree by fear and pain? Do not these two causes give rise to a morbid condition, very far removed from health? I grant that it is often important, even indispensable, to test the effects of poisons in brutes before administering them to man, but this process involves but little suffering, and is of short duration. The practice I would abjure, is that of subjecting dumb animals to the progressive grades of minute dissection, until life is extinguished upon the altar of science."

This protest, made in Philadelphia more than fifty years ago, represents, probably, one of the first, if not the earliest, public professional protest against vivisection in this country; it came from a scientific and eminently original observer, a thoroughly practical anatomist and a highly gifted member of the medical profession, a graduate of the famous Edinburgh school, and of our own University of Pennsylvania.

The *Progrès Médical* some time ago published an account of the widow of M. Claude Bernard, the noted French vivisector: the article states that from a certain property in the French village of Colombes, the howls of about forty dogs and the screeches of more than that number of cats are borne to the unwilling ears of the neighboring residents. There are those, indeed, who aver that the premises on which the animals are kept constitute practically a sort of lazaretto, and that the effluvia arising therefrom are a source of danger to their health. On this account the occupant of the property has been proceeded against in the

courts. The person thus mulcted is an old lady, who makes it her business to gather in all the stray dogs and cats that she meets with on the streets.

This lady is no less a person than the widow of the great physiologist, the late M. Claude Bernard, who, as is well known, practiced vivisection, but early in the course of his married life his wife became a violent opponent of the practice, and their disagreement in the matter is understood to have made their life anything but a happy one, and finally to have brought about their separation. M. Bernard having at length died, his relict's old tenderness has arisen from its ashes; she has gone to work systematically to expiate his offences against the lower animals by showing kindness to as many stray dogs and cats as opportunity may allow; her idea being that, when at length she has succored as many distressed brutes as he was the means of slaying, his purgation will have been accomplished vicariously, and her soul and that of her late husband will be ready to meet in paradise. (*New York Medical Journal*.)

The man who can contemplate this unhappy lady performing her self-imposed, love-inspired task, without emotion, or who can dismiss it with a sneer, deserves our profoundest pity.

May we not earnestly hope that many of those who have here practiced unnecessary vivisection, will be induced, on calmly considering the subject, to expiate at least a part of their own offences by joining with us in now securing legislative restriction. To conclude in the words of Mr. Fleming, in his essay on vivisection.

“Damaging alike to science, to the genius of humanity, and especially to the god-like functions of medicine, we submit that the wrongs inflicted on the inferior creatures by vivisectors urgently demand redress by the merciful interposition of legal restraint. That such is not far distant is certain, and it becomes every Christian and benevolent man—the lover of his own species and of those beneath him in organization and intellect—to hasten the advent of such a happy release from torture and suffering.”

## ADDRESS OF DR. JAS. E. GARRETSON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: In accepting the invitation to speak a few words before the Anti-vivisection Society, I found the compelling motive to lie with a single word, which, at the moment of receiving the said invitation, impressed itself upon my mind, as the handwriting is said to have stood out from the wall. That word is the very common, but, as I often think, about the least considered one of the English language, namely, *they*. Happen what will, come to pass what may, the first word upon every tongue is *they*. Why do THEY not do so and so? Why will They not do so and so? We sympathize with the helpless, maltreated Indian, and our indignation is turned against—against whom? why against *they*—the *they*—who do not stand forth to defend him. \* \* \*

If eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, it will be found not less a truth that the good or evil which blesses or curses the world, and which lies with the *they* who accomplish, or who leave unaccomplished, has its immediate and direct meaning in you—you personally and in me; in every individual who on this night and in this room is brought into the presence of a great responsibility. I think I make it plain why I myself, as one of the audience, am present. I trust the conviction is just now upon us, that the *They* who are to continue to scourge, or who are to come to the rescue of helpless animals, is nobody but ourselves. To-night you, individually, and I, as an individual, find ourselves face to face with a matter, concerning which everything that is human within us calls for action. To me it appears impossible that any one can so have heart left out of her or his composition as to allow of rest, until a problem which involves so much of suffering or its prevention has been worked out and a decision secured.

The subject is Anti-vivisection as opposed to Vivisection.

By vivisection is meant, as we all know, the cutting, flaying, pinching, burning, crushing, tearing, bleeding, disemboweling, maiming and the eviscerating generally of living animals. This as to words.

By the reality of vivisection is meant, as I personally know of the performances, the enactment of horrors which I truly say I would not save my own life by performing.



Just here is the converse of the matter: Brute life weighed against human life. The argument of the vivisectionist is that he learns to save men by flaying and disemboweling brutes. I deny it; I incline to deny it almost *in toto*. Our knowledge of disease lies in records made of phenomena, and in explaining these phenomena through post-mortem examinations, just as, on the other hand, we have our knowledge of the meaning of a dose of salts by its action upon the bowels, or of a diaphoretic by the sweat that follows the exhibition of such a remedy. The fashion of the day is the physiological action of remedies; not to prescribe after such manner of appreciation is to secure a shrug of the shoulders from vivisectional book makers. Now, having personally arrived at an age and condition in which one may be utterly indifferent as to a handle that may be made of an admission, I boldly declare that the last decade has given the profession but a single new remedy worth the naming, and this remedy is the familiar bromide of potassium. This in opposition to the fact that thousands of dogs, cats, rabbits, pigeons and guinea pigs have endured all manner of torture in a search after new things.

But has not vivisection afforded us knowledge of new surgical performances, and of a better manner of doing those that are not new? I have been a teacher of surgery for the past fifteen years, and am entirely ignorant of a single hint in the way of service obtained by the profession from any such proceedings. We learn and have learned, true, from our mistakes; but, in my own experience, I can recall no individual instance where the brute would have helped me with the man.\*

The choicest fruits in Medicine are secured by learning of *à priori* through the *à posteriori*. It is as easy to reason out a cause from an effect as it is to infer of effect from cause. In treating a patient I see such and such phenomena. I make close notes of these, and that is my empirical observation. After a time a patient dies and I make a post-mortem examination, and here is obtained information which either confirms or denies deductions made in the previous observations. I contend be-

\* See, for pertinent articles in this direction, the Philadelphia *Medical Times*; number for February 7th, 1885.

fore this intelligent audience, that nearly all the progress made in medical science comes through clinical and post-mortem examinations, and not through vivisection. Only yesterday a distinguished colleague remarked to me, "I am astonished that you will appear as supporting the Anti-vivisection Society." I replied, "Why should I not, pray?" "Well," said he, "where did you learn to remove a larynx?" Now, I have done perhaps every surgical operation that is performed upon the human throat, though I never cut a living animal's throat in order to gain information for such work. What I learned I learned where every other man who has brains enough ought to learn it—at the dissecting table; and if he has not brains enough to learn it there, he should be at something else. (Applause.)

My diploma dates from the year 1859. I have been nearly all these years a teacher of anatomy and of surgery; and if anything especially new or good has been evolved from vivisection which could not, equally well, have been learned after another manner, I, as a teacher of surgery for many years, do not know it. *I do not know it.*

I do not know how to learn from vivisection what I cannot learn in the dissecting room as to my mistakes. I fear very, very much, that a great deal of the zeal in vivisection comes from its sensational features. The amphitheatre of my own lecture room is crowded whenever I have to perform a surgical operation which covers the floor with blood for an hour or two; but when I bring all the resources of what I have been able to gain from a life of study, with reference to information that would do away with the necessity for such operations, I find that the amphitheatre is about half filled. Let it be known that a surgeon is going to cut some poor sufferer for a couple of hours, and an operating room is crowded.

I could not, for simple experiment's sake, cut a dog for two minutes; but I could cut a human subject for fifty hours, if the result meant the salvation of the latter. The effort to do good arouses all the god that is in a man; I cannot but feel that the other calls up the devil. (Much applause.) I could tell you story after story in regard to the horrors of vivisection. I could talk to you about a poor dog brought in, with some premonition,

apparently, of his impending fate. Dogs are wonderfully intelligent. I have seen one dragged into a laboratory, and I have had it look up to me with a look implying the beseeching of protection—a protection I was powerless to afford; I have seen great tears coursing down its face. I have seen it spoken to kindly, “Poor Ponto, poor fellow;” then suddenly grasped by four students and thrown upon the table and strapped by extended legs, perhaps with a little ether administered; not very particular whether anæsthesia was complete or not; the abdomen cut open, and a lot of curious students, every one of whom was familiar with the fact, circled around to watch the peristaltic motion of the intestines. If any gentleman here can tell me what is the use of such a performance, I would like to have him do so. A vivisectionist might say, “when you show a class this vermicular motion it makes an impression.” Well now, God Almighty save the man who requires to be impressed in that way! Another experiment is to thrust a trocar into an animal’s heart, causing the blood to spurt five or ten feet, and the students are asked to notice how far the action of the heart expels blood. Now every housewife who has ever dressed the cut finger of a boy knows that an artery spurts blood.

I have vivisectional friends whom I simply love. They are humane men, excepting as to this single idiosyncrasy. A brute to these men is not in any way allied with a human—is not even a sentient animal. They relate as unfeelingly toward it as if it were a something made up in all respects physiologically, except as to the matter of nerves possessed of ability to suffer. There are men engaged in vivisection who would lend a brother practitioner their last coin, and do anything in reason to help him out of an inconvenience, not to say a distress. It is simple charity to excuse a confirmed vivisectionist on the grounds of a mental obliquity, a moral astigmatism, an idiosyncrasy.

Imagine a dog put into a hot box, in a search after a fever-point, and kept there till life is almost extinct, and then taken out; after awhile, when the temperature changes, *put back into the hot box*. Now, think of it—not for the dog only, but think of it in relation with *yourselves*; ladies and gentlemen.

I think it would not be unfair to take a few of these learned



vivisectional gentlemen and put them into the hot boxes, put them on the various experimental racks; should they come away still satisfied with vivisection, I certainly—well I should say they are indeed demigods—or—or whatever you please to use as a name—and that humanity is without means by which to reach such states of mind.

Some months ago I attended a meeting of the Juniata Medical Society, and the subject of vivisection came up. I mentioned a number of cases of cruelty, and was called on for names. I said: "Gentlemen I do not think it is necessary to give names." Soon after a young man got up, and with utter unconsciousness of the proof that he was affording to the truth of my words, described a series of experiments undertaken by himself. He said: "I have vivisected seventy dogs in the line of this single work."

There are here present those who, by personal knowledge, can tell you just where you can sell a dog for twenty-five cents; if you have a dog to sell at twenty-five cents, that you desire to have flayed, pinched, torn and maimed, the money is at your command—the market is always active.

For one, ladies and gentlemen, I class myself, without any circumlocution, on the side of the *they* who are in opposition to vivisection. It is simply impossible, out of my knowledge of the matter, that I could class myself anywhere else. No man knows better than myself the importance of guarded and careful speaking on such a subject. I commit myself not without much examination.

I am more of an anti-vivisectionist than is represented by this society. I believe that human beings would lose nothing if a vivisection was never made again. This extreme view few, however, are prepared for. See, then, if any person can find an objection to the petition offered on behalf of helpless things by the Anti-vivisection Society.\*

\* The speaker of the above desires to have attention directed to two papers to be found in the July and September numbers of *Scribner's Monthly* for the year 1880. These papers are antagonistic, and show the circle of the important subject under consideration. The first contains what, had time permitted, would have been duplicated in the recital of cases at this meeting. The second favors free vivisection, but is compelled to agree to a possible abuse. Neither is unfair to the other, the matter being discussed on scientific rather than on humane grounds. To study these two papers is to possess one's self of fair data for forming an opinion.

## ADDRESS OF DR. OWEN J. WISTER.

I confess that I came here to-night to say what little I have to say with a good deal of reluctance, partly because of its little worth, but principally because few people care to be among the pioneers of a reform which brings them into antagonism with their professional brethren, which seems to separate them from their order. I say *seems* to separate them, because the separation is more apparent than real. I do not at all doubt that the majority of medical men of standing and experience utterly disapprove of unlimited vivisection; but whilst this majority is silent, those who favor the unrestricted use of animals in so-called original research are active and noisy—noisy in their writings at least, and busy in carrying into many households the false doctrines of the cause they advocate, and thus, by creating prejudice, shutting the public ear to the truths we are endeavoring to inculcate. Silence, then, is not golden in those who seek to prevent unnecessary vivisection.

Formerly, vivisectors adduced as their strongest argument the immense additions they had made to the resources of the healing art; now, grown more bold and therefore more honest, they drop this appeal to benevolent selfishness, and simply say that their experiments are essential to scientific progress—a specious argument. It is fair, I think, to say that the practice of medicine—the healing art—is of paramount importance to any one of those sciences familiarity with which is required before the degree of doctor of medicine can be conferred, and we have a right to demand that it be incontestably shown that this very exceptional method of investigation has conferred benefits, in some degree at least, commensurate with its horrors. It cannot be shown. It cannot be shown that the healing art has received any great assistance from the results of these experiments; it can be demonstrated that it has been led into a good deal of error. Vivisection has no doubt added somewhat to our knowledge of physiology, it has furnished much more ingenious speculation, a good deal of extremely misleading light, and a great deal of scientific bric-à-brac.

With many of the great discoveries claimed for it, vivisection has had nothing whatever to do. Let us say the circulation of

the blood: Harvey did not so much discover the circulation as think it out, and when he endeavored to prove his theory by vivisection he failed, and only muddled himself. The truth is, the circulation can be demonstrated on the dead body and cannot be shown on the living at all. The capillary circulation, which Harvey never did know anything about, but which was discovered by an Italian years afterwards, can be shown by the microscope, in the web of a living frog's foot, at any time, without pain or injury to the animal. The localization of the brain functions, constantly demonstrated and as often refuted, is in a state of the most hopeless confusion to-day, and surgeons, operating on the teachings of those vain theories which the most horrible tortures have wrung from helpless animals, are doing as much mischief as their blundering predecessors of three centuries ago.

While vivisection has led practitioners into many errors, it has also led them away from other methods of investigation, the results of which are far less delusive—the microscope, post-mortem examinations, organic chemistry, and, above all, observation and thought. Hence, we find crude announcements accepted and acted upon, even when totally in contradiction to beliefs well settled by long experience. Some years ago Rutherford proved, by experiments on dogs, that calomel has no effect on the functions of the liver. Those whose love of the marvellous exceeded their confidence in their own observations and the experience of the fathers, gave up calomel and relied on may-apple, dandelion, and the like; after a while the unquestionable results of these experiments were exploded and all hands turned to calomel again. When Rutherford's experiments were published, they seemed to me sufficiently absurd to deserve no heed; he carefully omitted the stomach, the nervous system, and the fact that drugs do not always produce the same effect on man that they do on the lower animals. This fact, it must be remembered, has been denied by an eminent teacher of Therapeutics of this city, who, in a popular article published in advocacy of vivisection, made the very remarkable announcement that all drugs have precisely the same effect upon man and the lower animals, and that no doctor under fifty questions it. Having long passed this



gloomy period of mental decay myself, I am in no condition to encounter this vigorous youth; but I feel sure that all doctors over that age know the absurdity of the assertion, and I venture to hope that most of those who still linger in the credulous days of green youth suspect it. A distinguished physiologist of this city was unable to convince himself that heat would kill until he had repeated the experiments of Bernard, of baking animals to death, euphemistically sunstroke. These experiments were tried with gratifying success long ago, on a grand scale, on the human subject, as any one familiar with the works of Philip II well knows.

Not long ago, what is now known as elevation of temperature was called fever, and was supposed to be principally significant as a symptom, and it was found that when we had the good luck to remove the disease the symptom vanished. But now, reading by the infallible light shed by vivisection, we say that it is the heat that kills, and proceed to wrap the rheumatic and typhoid fever cases in sheets wrung out of very cold water, which has the advantage of adding pneumonia or serious visceral congestion to the evils which already exist. It is true that this kind of treatment has found but little acceptance in this country, but when it shall do so, I think the hangman must be consulted.

In considering vivisection in relation to the healing art, it is curious to note that nowhere have investigations of this sort been carried so far, nowhere has such enormous cruelty been perpetrated on helpless creatures, as in Germany and France, yet the Germans are notoriously the worst practitioners on the face of the earth, always excepting the French, if they deserve mention at all. The question by torture was abandoned long ago, because men became convinced that under a sufficient degree of suffering all evidence was worthless; to-day we are led astray by supposing that the crushed bone and torn flesh of our agonized victims will induce their nervous systems to speak the truth.

In the legislation which it is sought to obtain no attempt will be made to interfere with the prosecution of original research by the use of animals; only an effort will be made for the restriction of such means to the hands of those from whom some results of possible usefulness may be hoped; that it shall not be

permitted for class-demonstration nor for abuse by tyros. A man who makes use of methods which ought to be esteemed so exceptional should be singularly well equipped. Sound judgment, acute powers of observation, honesty so thorough as to make him incapable of deceiving even himself, and knowledge of *everything* already known to Physiologists. It is not possible for any tribunal to which the licensing power is confided to ascertain all this by an examination of the applicant; but a sufficient estimate may be formed from the certificate of a competent medical body. How many such men may we suppose there exist in the world? Not twenty. And in this country? Not five. Dozens of charlatans no doubt there are, hoping to surprise public admiration by startling methods; hundreds of ambitious youths with much to learn in every way, but attempting to take the second step before taking the first, we also have, engaged in this sinful waste of animal suffering; but of men so prepared as to afford a reasonable hope of adequate results, I think we have not five in the United States. And yet the laboratories and colleges of the land are hideous with the cries of tormented creatures. Still no check has been adopted to restrain, no law enacted to limit, no appeal listened to to protect our helpless kindred from unreasoning cruelty. If those who oppose every measure suggested to ameliorate this state of things would point to one fact of value to science, to one hint of real aid to the healing art, as the fruit of all the abominations which have been permitted in this country, their arrogance might be tolerated. But they stand with empty hands and demand unrestricted and unlicensed vivisection, mischievous though it is to the profession, disgraceful to the age, a crime, to whose enormity I cannot but believe that the public conscience must soon awake.

DR. WILLIAM R. D. BLACKWOOD,

Neurologist to the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, spoke as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—I am heartily in accord with the aim and object of this society, and take pleasure in countenancing and furthering its efforts toward restricting by law the process of vivisection.

I am the more concerned in this matter because my practice

as a physician pertains largely toward the treatment of nervous diseases, so-called, or disorders of the brain and nerves, and it is in the study of these disorders that vivisection has most been prosecuted, and in them many theories are held, both as to cause and cure, resulting from the labors of vivisectionists.

I deny emphatically that our present knowledge (great as its advances have been in the past decade) is due at all to the work of vivisectors. I affirm that vivisectors are less capable of managing such diseases than ordinarily intelligent physicians, and that statistics will prove these men to be, almost without exception, visionary in idea, prejudiced in their aim, and illogical in their conclusions, upsetting to-day the supposed facts of yesterday, only to be overthrown to-morrow by brother vivisectors; and this over and over again, in every line of research they undertake. All true advancement in medical knowledge has been due solely to the careful study of many intelligent and capable physicians in their bedside practice, and the intercommunication of their successes and failures under defined methods of treatment of repeated thousands of cases, of all kinds, where recovery has ensued, aided by the revelations of carefully conducted post-mortem examinations in cases of fatal termination. I am satisfied that the light thrown upon medical knowledge from a hundred carefully conducted post-mortem investigations has been of more absolute value to the profession and to mankind at large than all the experiments of all the vivisectors who ever lived, be they skilful, or ignorant bunglers, as ninety-nine per cent. of such men now are and always have been.

I sincerely desire to have vivisection rigidly restrained within carefully defined limits, under stringent penalty, because the aim now is to encourage the study of "practical physiology" as taught in our medical schools, and large numbers of incompetent young men are thus encouraged to repeat unnecessarily, atrocious cruelties on animals without the slightest possible good to any one. Few students are capable dissectors of the dead subject, where no sympathy is required; how wretched must their work be on the living body, where exquisite skill is demanded, and where every mistake requires repetition, that, if it be within their power, they may attain the result found by self-styled "authorities;" and after



all, no real light is developed beyond what is already known, and which may be obtained in other more desirable ways—these methods being free from the infliction of suffering on man or beast.

I advocate close restriction, because the horse, the dog, the cat, the rabbit, the fowl, the guinea-pig or the frog do not approach sufficiently, in their comparative anatomy, the anatomy of man, and experiments on such animals do not necessarily present effects or results which would, beyond question, be found to occur in similar experiments done on the human body. Animals die from ingesting articles innocuous to mankind, and conversely, animals eat with impunity material deadly to the human subject. Reliable data cannot be secured by experimentation, for this reason; nor do surgical injuries act alike upon the human and brute creation. The foundation for vivisection is wrong—the conclusions cannot be true. Time does not permit extended remarks, but I hope that the force of public opinion, which exerts so weighty an influence on all our professional and social relations, will stamp with utter condemnation the senseless, wicked, unnecessary and indefensible cruelty inseparably connected with vivisection, and compel respect to laws which will restrain its wholesale performance. Beyond this, the Power which governs life and health, sickness and death, whose judgment is certain, and whose justice is sure, will hold to strict account the works of all men, be they good or evil.

#### LETTER OF DR. SCHULTZ,

*Superintendent and Physician of State Hospital for the Insane.*

DANVILLE, PA., January 24th, 1885.

MISS ADELE BIDDLE, *Secretary* :—

*Madam* :—Your note of the 5th instant enclosing a projected law for the supervision and restriction of vivisection is received. You request my opinion of the propriety or necessity of such an enactment. This, in a few words, I cheerfully give you.

It is conceded that vivisection, as the term is defined in this proposed statute, is not in itself or necessarily to be condemned; that it has been practiced from ancient times; that by it some knowledge of the functions of the human body and of the diseases that it is liable to, have been obtained earlier than would without it have been possible; that it has aided in the discovery

of means for the alleviation of human suffering, and that all additions to our stock of knowledge ought to be welcome, even if at the time it does not appear how they are to be of any use. It is to be remembered, however, that the discovery and demonstration of truth by vivisection costs the lives of inoffensive animals, often pitilessly tortured to a lingering death; that the nerves of these animals feel none the less acutely than our own because their language is unintelligible to us. The physiology and pathology of man and of animals are not the same, and what is found to be true of the latter is not necessarily applicable to the former. Eminent men look at the same mutilated cat, dog or horse, but fail to see the same thing, and they do the more rarely still build the same theory upon the same observations. The practical outcome must therefore be accepted with some misgivings. But granted that all is gained by vivisection which the most enthusiastic can claim for it, the end does not justify the means, and to reason that it does is as intolerable in science as it is in religion or the State. The author of the creation made man lord over it, but it is not to be for a moment supposed that this dominion is absolute. The brute has rights which man cannot with impunity violate, and one of these is, that his happiness and comfort are not to be wantonly destroyed or even disregarded. Especially is this true of the domestic animals, many of whom exert themselves for our profit and pleasure, with a fidelity and self-forgetfulness to which man can only exceptionally lay claim.

This proposed Act does not contemplate to interfere with what can be at all justified in vivisection, and less still to suppress it; but there are wanton cruelties inflicted in connection with so-called vivisection which are utterly useless for the discovery of truth. These should be prevented, and it is a not unreasonable expectation that men competent to work in this field should be willing to submit to the trifling inconveniences that would result from the enforcement of such a law. No good is required by it to be surrendered, and a great wrong to our harmless fellow creatures is remedied. Cowper was not willing to be the associate of the man who wantonly destroyed a worm.

Heartily wishing you great success in your most noble and necessary work, I am,

Very truly yours,

S. S. SCHULTZ.

# ACCOUNT OF HARRY B. FRENCH, TREASURER, FOR 1884.

TOTAL RECEIPTS TO JANUARY 20, 1885.		TOTAL EXPENSES TO JANUARY 20, 1885.	
Balance, February 15th, 1884.....	\$935 45	PRINTING—	
“ Not entered.....	41 00	“ Name of President on Envelopes..\$	1 00
Total receipts of 1884.....	422 49	“ 3-page Circular to Med. Profession	20 90
Total.....	\$1398 94	“ Notices of Stated Meetings.....	1 50
		“ 900 Postals for Reply of Med. Pro- fession.....	3 00
		“ 1000 Copies Annual Report of 1883	46 75
		“ Medical Education in America ” ..	7 95
		“ 2000 8-page Pamphlets.....	19 85
		“ 3000 3-page Circulars.....	13 00
		“ (Electrotyping same).....	2 75
		“ 2000 Copies Address of Bish. of Oxford.....	5 50
		“ 8000 Copies “ Vivisection ” .....	251 00
		“ 2000 Circulars of Dr. Bell Taylor..	6 50
		“ 2000 Essays.....	3 50
		“ Miscellaneous.....	38 27
		Total.....	\$421 47
		Stationery .....	20 90
		POSTAGE—	
		“ Circulars to Medical Profession.....	69 00
		Am't carried forward.	

Am't carried forward.



# ACCOUNT OF HARRY B. FRENCH, TREASURER, FOR 1884.—Continued.

Am't brought forward.....	\$1398 94	Am't brought forward.....	\$69 00	\$442 37
<b>POSTAGE (Continued)—</b>				
“ Notices of Stated Meeting.....		“ Notices of Stated Meeting.....	3 00	
“ Distribution of Circulars.....		“ Distribution of Circulars.....	1 20	
“ Postals enclosed for Reply of Med. Prof.....		“ Postals enclosed for Reply of Med. Prof.....	11 50	
“ Pamphlets, etc., to Clergy, and Postals for Reply.....		“ Pamphlets, etc., to Clergy, and Postals for Reply.....	59 90	
“ Circulars, etc., to Clergy.....		“ Circulars, etc., to Clergy.....	32 20	
“ Copies of Proposed Legislative Bill sent to medical men.....		“ Copies of Proposed Legislative Bill sent to medical men.....	10 00	
“ Miscellaneous.....		“ Miscellaneous.....	57 34	
		Total.....		244 14
		Zoöphilist, 19 Copies.....		16 75
		Hire of Clerk to January 3d, 1885.....		177 50
		Rent, Jan., 1884, to Jan., 1885, inclusive.....		130 00
		Miscellaneous.....		10 62
	1071 38	Rent of Hall for Annual Meeting, 1885.....		50 00
Balance.....	\$327 56	Total Expenditures.....		\$1071 38

Examined and found correct.

(Signed)

SARAH K. DAVIDSON,  
STEPHEN FARRELLY.

# LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP, \$30.00.

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Mr. Charles Motley Clark.		Mr. Geo. H. Earle.....	2 00
Mrs. Clarence H. Clark.		Mr. M. S. Easby.....	2 00
Miss Mary D. Fox.		Mrs. John H. Easby.....	2 00
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Miss A. C. Bisbing.....	2 00	tribution) .....	11 00
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